

Christian



Secretary.

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CONDITIONS.

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RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

PREACHING TO THE IRISH PEASANTRY.

A preacher employed by the Baptist Irish Society, in giving an account of the death of a poor Irishman whom he visited, observes:—

"One, whom I saw the day before his death, in reply to the question, How are you? said, 'very weak, very low as to my body, but I am joyful in my soul.'—Being asked, what occasioned that joy, he replied, 'A hope of interest in Jesus Christ; I have no other hope—I am a sinner, but the blood of Christ gives me peace.' Some other answers were given to questions on similar subjects, which were not satisfactory; but it is thought that it was more from an inability to express himself clearly on the subject.

This happy soul ascended to bliss, out of a poor, weak, dark body, from a confined, cold, and dirty cabin; off a little straw, covered with a ragged sheet, and the only covering that the poor invalid possessed was a small blanket and a piece of stuff; but in this situation he repeatedly said he was happy.

Oh what pitiable, what wretched characters are those, who would endeavour to rob the world of the religion of Jesus Christ! or would withhold the scriptures from their fellow creatures, by which a knowledge of salvation is to be attained! Who would not rather spend his life in the most strenuous exertions to make known the one, and to disseminate the other."—*Baptist Irish Chronicle.*

The Baptists in Kentucky have commenced the publication of a religious news-paper. From the independent remarks of its editorial address, we anticipate a new auxiliary to the cause of Missions, and of education for the Ministry. Such a publication was greatly needed in that western section of our country, as our brethren there have been deplorably deficient of information respecting the grand operations of the religious world; and from this cause, some of them have unhappily imbibed prejudices against missions and education. We hope these prejudices will speedily be as the morning cloud or the early dew.—*Watchman.*

Barbadoes, West-Indies.—Rev. Mr. Shrewsbury, Methodist Missionary at this island, in a letter dated July 31, 1822, mentions some encouraging prospects from the Mission in that place. He says, from an accurate knowledge of the society to which he ministers, he believes the work of God is becoming deeper in almost every heart. There had been an accession of 20 members in three months, mostly young persons, some of whom had been notoriously wicked. Four had died in the last year, who gave evidence that they were prepared for the heavenly state. A Missionary Society had lately been organized there, which it was believed would raise annually more than two hundred dollars. Mr. S. however, speaks with regret respecting the slaves, observing that they have no desire for religious instruction, but prefer to remain in ignorance and vice.—*ib.*

Presbytery of Oneida, N. Y.—In the Report on

the state of religion in this presbytery, adopted at a meeting in Feb. 1823, it is stated, that in the congregations of Utica, Paris, & Schenando, there have been hopeful gatherings of souls. Also at Herkimer, and Little Falls, there is an increasing attention. The monthly concert of prayer is generally observed. Sabbath schools are in successful progress, and the hope is cherished, that the state of the churches and of religion in general, is improving.

EXTRACTS.

Baptist General Convention at Washington.

"A letter from the Rev. Luther Rice, Agent of the Convention, to the Corresponding Secretary, was read. (The agent gives a brief statement of his labours for the year past. His time has been much occupied by the concerns of the College. He mentions an arrangement projected by the Trustees of the College, that the President, should he be re-elected Corresponding Secretary, shall be enabled to devote one day in each week exclusively to the business of the Convention. He states, also, that he has made such arrangements with the Trustees, as to be able to serve the Convention as Agent, without charge. He mentions the success of the Luminary and Star, and states that the property connected with the Columbian printing office, including two good houses, is worth about \$10,000 which he has been enabled to secure to the Convention, by appropriating to the purchase all his own compensation, and personal donatives for years, and which he intends to deed to the Convention without delay.) The letter was ordered to lie on the table.

"An address from the Trustees of the Columbian College was then read. (This address contains a history of the institution, and a view of its present condition. The number of students is 59, viz. 4 pursuing theological studies; 4 in the Junior class; 16 in the Sophomore class; 13 in the Freshman class; and 22 preparatory students.—The number of theological licentiates is 17, of whom 13 are pursuing classical studies, viz. Juniors 3, Sophomore 2, Freshmen 3, Preparatory 5. The whole expenditure for land, College edifices, houses for Professors, out buildings, &c. is about \$70,000. The amount of debt is about \$30,000. The amount of uncollected subscriptions is upwards of \$20,000. There are due to the Treasurer in notes about \$5000. He has made an investment in Bank Stock of about 7,500. The amount due from the Convention to the Board of Trustees, for theological beneficiaries, is about 6000. If all these claims were collected, there would be sufficient funds to liquidate all the debts.—The tuition money from the students is already sufficient to pay the salaries of the acting faculty; but it is highly important, that the President remove hither, and the Board are willing to guarantee to him a support, till his salary shall be permanently secured.) This address together with the letter of the Agent, was referred to the Committee on the Columbian College.

"The Committee on the Burman and Arracan mission made a report. (The Committee express their satisfaction at the general prosperity of the Burman mission, that persecution has not molested it, that 18 Burmans have been baptized, and that the translation of the Testament is nearly completed. They approve the conduct of the missionaries in going to Ava, and recommend to them to endeavour to establish a station there, and at the same time to make such arrangements, as to promote the edification of the infant church at Rangoon. The Committee recommend, that Mr. Judson be instructed to have 2000 copies of the Testament immediately printed: and that the aid of the Am. Bible Society, and of the Baptist Missionary Society of Massachusetts, be solicited. They recommend, that an address be

sent to the Emperor of Burmah, in the name of the teachers of religion on this side of the waters, signed by the officers of the Convention, accompanied by a present of a large, handsome pair of globes. They propose, that the number of missionaries in India be increased, and mention the names of brethren Jonathan Wade, of Edinburgh, (N. Y.) and G. D. Boardman, teacher in Waterville College, Me. who have been recommended as suitable persons for missionaries, and whose services may probably be obtained. In regard to the station in Arracan, the Committee are of opinion, that the station ought not to be relinquished, as the prospect of usefulness is great, and it will afford a refuge, should the missionaries be ejected from Burmah. The Committee further state, that they had an interview with Mrs. Judson, and had requested her to communicate her views in writing. Mrs. Judson tendered the thanks of Mr. Judson and herself for the kindness which they have ever experienced from the Convention;—and advises prompt measures for the increase and support of the mission. The Committee state, that Mrs. J. in conjunction with Dr. Judson, offers the copy-right of the History of the Burman Mission for the gratuitous acceptance of the Convention. (This offer was accepted, and thanks were voted.) They mention with approbation the formation of Judson societies, and state, that Mrs. Hannah More, so celebrated for her pious and elegant productions, has bequeathed 200*l.* sterling for the support of female schools in Burmah.) The report was accepted, and referred to the Board, with instructions to extend to the Burman mission its fostering care, and give it increasing support, as soon as possible."

"The Committee respecting the Indian school near the lead mines in Illinois made a report, which was adopted.

"The Committee on the Valley Towns Mission reported. (The report speaks favourably of the state of the mission: commends the conduct of Mr. Roberts and his associates, and approves their efforts, to fix the language, preparatory to translations.)

"The Committee relative to the Creek Indians, made a report, that the Rev. Lee Compere, with his family, consisting of his wife, three children, and his sister, together with a young man named Simons, in the character of teacher, removed to the station about five weeks ago. Contracts have been made for suitable buildings. The Committee recommend, that the present name, Tuchatacher, be changed to that of the "Withington station," as a tribute of respect to the memory of our late excellent brother Withington, of New-York. The report was adopted."

"A letter was read from the Rev. Nathaniel Kendrick, of Eaton, Ms. to Dr. Baldwin, respecting the character of brother Jonathan Wade, and recommending him as a missionary; and also a letter from brother George D. Boardman, tendering his services to the Convention."

"The Committee on the Constitution reported several amendments. On motion of Mr. Cone, the Constitution, as amended, was adopted. The amendments do not alter the essential features of the Constitution. They make a change in the second article, by providing that societies contributing annually \$100, shall be entitled to one delegate and vote, and an additional one for every additional hundred dollars; but allowing to one individual one vote only. The amended constitution provides, that there shall be a President and Recording Secretary of the convention, who shall be *ex officio* members of the Board. The Board is not altered, in its organization or duties. A change is made in the 9th article, to make it conform to the alterations in the preceding articles. The 13th article, relative to proxies, is expunged.

"Brother Conant presented a request from the Vermont Baptist Society for the establishment of a mission in Brazil, in South America."

"The Committee appointed to ascertain what sums have been expended, during the last three years, made a report. (The aggregate stated is about \$66,600, of which \$9631 have been expended on the Burman Mission; \$9497 on the Valley Towns Mission; \$8893 on the Fort Wayne Mission.—The Committee state, that the tenure by which the property belonging to the Convention at the several mission stations, is held, is considered entirely secure.) The report was adopted."

CONVERSION OF AN INFIDEL.

The following communication was sent us by a gentleman of respectability, in whose veracity we place the utmost confidence.—*Missionary.*

Mr. T—, I believe, was educated for a lawyer. He is certainly a man of much legal knowledge, and an able Legislator, in which capacity he has served his country for several years. But alas! (as too many of the "mighty of the earth" are) he was a deist. He pleasantly believed that God was wise and merciful, and able to carry on his affairs with man without a Mediator, and as "for his part, he saw no necessity for a Jesus." Hearing a preacher once tell of a temptation that assailed him to disbelieve the existence of one God, he thought, "if as good a man as the minister had his doubts about one God, he supposed he was quite excusable if he should reject the idea of a Saviour." At times he had convictions, "Perhaps I may be wrong!" and prayed to his God. Things went smoothly on until February last, when God was disposed to awaken his attention more powerfully and successfully than he ever did before. He was pleased to take away a lovely daughter, three or four years of age. She was so seriously burnt, that in six or eight hours thereafter she died. Just before the tender soul left the afflicted body, a pleasant smile graced her beauteous face, as if Jesus had whispered forgiveness to her soul. Soon after, she expired, exclaiming,—"Lord Jesus, have mercy on me," not before she gave her weeping parents reason to believe she was going, as a precious Lamb, to rest in Jesus' bosom.—The words, "Lord Jesus," struck the heart of Mr. T— like lightning, especially when he reflected that he disbelieved in and rejected the same Jesus, who was precious to the little child; and that she, so young, should know something of Him, and he all his life had been ignorant of Him. This truly was "an arrow fastened in the heart of the King's enemy." He became sensible of his error, felt his sins rise to a mountainous height. His distress was so great that he scarcely ate or slept for several days, and he verily thought if he had not been relieved when he was, he could not have survived under his burden much longer. When about to sink into despair, Jesus passed by and said, "My son, give me thy heart, be of good comfort thy sins are forgiven thee." Immediately he felt forgiveness, and rejoiced in God his Saviour. Soon after, however, he was grievously harassed by the "fiery darts of the wicked one." "Perhaps I am not converted." Sometimes he felt strong in the Lord, at other times he was in great darkness. The morning of the day he related his experience to the church, he was in considerable distress. Retiring into the forest, he fervently poured out his soul to God to shew him his duty—(for perhaps, thought he, "I may be deceived, I may be too hasty.") He prayed that the Lord would manifest himself some way that he might decide. Just as he was about to finish a second prayer, his soul was melted into love and humility and these words relieved him—"Deny thyself, take up thy cross and follow me." He did so, and was baptized last Sunday, with five others, which had considerable effect on an extensive congregation. He certainly is an altered man, and I believe savingly so. Now he loves Jesus. Now he associates with Christians. Now he attends meetings. Now he "searches the Scriptures." Now he vindicates the doctrines of grace, by example and conversation, and says, at times, "he feels the worth of souls," &c. He was a magistrate and legislator; and though we believe him to be better qualified now, than before his conversion, to fill posts of honor and trust, yet, like

his Master, he "seeketh not honor from men," and he has resigned them. Thus we see what grace can do. Truly the poet has it,

"It changes a lion to a lamb, a raven to a dove."

Oh that we could see many bowing to the benign sceptre of the glorious "Prince of Peace." May God of his infinite mercy often "do likewise," and save us all eternally in that loving Jesus. Amen.

April, 1823.

Persia.—The Scottish Missionary Society are encouraged in the labours of their missionaries amongst the Persians. Although no special evidence is apparent of their thorough conversion to Christianity, yet there is such a spirit of candour amongst them, such a willingness to read the books of Christians, such a listening ear to the arguments of scripture as exhibited by the missionaries, and above all, such a ready recognition of the principle, *that it is their duty and privilege to think for themselves*—that strong hopes are entertained that at no distant day, the gospel will have free course amongst them. They are not only more disposed to toleration than the Turks, but they are inclined to the discussion of the question, whether the Mahommedan faith is rational and sound. The ingenuousness with which Henry Martyn was received at Shiraz, in Persia, and "the veneration in which his memory is now held at the seat of his previous disputations," are solid grounds of encouragement. Since the death of Martyn, the Christian faith has excited much attention; and on one occasion, a few Persians associated together, to read the New-Testament, and to decide upon its pretensions. One of them personated a Christian, and defended the gospel.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A PLEA FOR MISSIONS.

Should any one attempt to exonerate himself from the support of missionaries, or to depreciate the importance of their object, by asserting that savages are more blest in their native forest and derive more exquisite happiness from the bow and chase than they could enjoy in the refined walks of cultivation; let him visit their nightly orgies, and see them dancing in concert to the shrieks of a fellow being expiring at the stake; and say, is this a happiness to be envied? Passing by a long catalogue of crimes too degrading to be recited, and too shocking for ordinary sensibility to contemplate, let us visit India, the garden of the world—the land where nature has painted her richest scenery and dispensed her blessings with a liberal hand, and what do we find indicative of rational happiness? We want not the aid of fancy's glowing colours to paint a mourning scene and harrow up your feelings with an exhibition of fictitious woe. Go to the banks of the Ganges and count the hecatombs of human victims that daily choke its streams. View the countless skeletons that lie unburied on the shores and whiten in the sun, tainting the spicy gale with stench and pestilence. See on the funeral pile a widowed mother self devoted to the flames, dooming her hapless offspring to double orphanage—to beggary and death! There behold crushed by an idol's ponderous car, the mutilated body of a youth—the last solace of declining age, who wiped the falling tear from a father's sightless eyes and smoothed the passage from his last repose. Hear the distracting shrieks of yonder babe, clinging to the bosom of its expiring mother, whom vultures make their prey ere her vitals cease to palpitate with life. View this, ye who yet cherish in your hearts the generous feelings of humanity, and while your blood recoils at the soul chilling horrors of the scene, let your liberality swell that stream of charity which alone can wash away its stains.

Ye ardent youths, who trim the midnight lamp, and toil for endless fame, be it your ambition to rekindle upon classic ground, the long extinguished torch of science. Emulate the Apostolic zeal of Fisk, who is now replanting the standard of the cross in the land of Solomon. Of his lamented colleague who in the spirit of Elijah, took his upward flight from the hill of Calvary.

Sons of enlightened freedom, pour into the bosom of degraded Africa the oil and wine to cicatrize the wounds avarice has made by the accursed instru-

ment of slavery. Friends of humanity, let pity for the heathen world, bleeding under the pressure of crimes and miseries which set description at defiance, move you to aid the arm of mercy which is now extended to rescue millions of our race from a cruel and untimely fate, and from the unutterable horrors of a second death! Ye highly favoured parents, whose eyes fill with the tenderness of bliss while dutious children sport around you in all the innocence of infantile simplicity; we plead for parents, who, by idolatry's infuriating zeal forgot the ties that bind them to their offspring, tear from the breast the lisping infant and cast it to the monsters of the deep.

Ye fair daughters of Columbia, to whom philanthropy cannot appeal in vain, compassionate your sisters in the land of darkness who are doomed to the drudgery of servitude, or made the degraded ministers of pleasure to unfeeling tyrants. Rescue them from their degradation, restore them to the dignity of their sex, and read the record of your benevolence in the retributions of eternity.

Evan. and Lit. Mag.

PROSPERITY THE CAUSE OF SELF-CONFIDENCE.

We do not discover the virtues and graces of the Gospel, in exact proportion to the talents and privileges which are bestowed, on the contrary, those who have reflected the brightest lustre on the Christian name, have often had the blessings of Providence, and the means of religious improvement, dealt out to them in the most sparing manner; and instead of finding the man who has been most highly favoured by heaven, always burning, with the most intense gratitude to his divine benefactor, we have not unfrequently found that he who has the least to awaken his gratitude, is the most deeply impressed with a sense of his obligation.

Self-confidence is very common to the man who is in opulent worldly circumstances. No matter how he may have gained his property; if it is only once in his possession, he is very apt to say, that his mountain stands strong, and shall never be moved. If he has acquired it by the gradual and persevering labours of his own industry, if he has increased his treasures, by little and little, through a long course of years, till at last he becomes the possessor of a splendid fortune; it is natural for him to suppose, that the road from wealth to poverty is as long and as rugged as that from poverty to wealth; and that there is no danger of his being stripped of his possessions, unless by a process as laborious and difficult as that by which they were gained.

This delusion is often taken up by men who occupy stations of influence and honour. There is something in worldly honours so intoxicating to the feeble mind of man, that he who is the subject of them is often disposed to fancy that nothing can wrest them from him. If he is conscious of deserving the high place which he holds in the estimation of his fellow men, he flatters himself there is so much correctness in public sentiment, that he is in no danger of being degraded from his station. He forgets that there are multitudes, as ambitious of distinction as himself, who are gazing with an eye of envy upon his lofty elevation, and who would eagerly embrace an opportunity to pilfer his honours, and thrust him into obscurity. In the pride of his heart, he imagines that the laurels of distinction sit so well upon him that there is no danger of their falling off. If he is sensible that he occupies a place for which he is unqualified, and which he gained only by artifice and bribery, he has the confidence to believe that he shall be able to retain it by the same fraudulent means by which it was acquired. He makes no calculations for the vigilance and jealousy of rivals, or the prudent inspection of the wise and good, and hardly dreams that there is wisdom enough in the world to detect his incapacity or intrigue. While his honours are hanging thick about him, and he is rejoicing in the smiles of prosperity, he exclaims in all the pride of self-confidence, "I shall never be moved."

PERPETUITY OF THE CHURCH.

"The long existence of the Christian Church would be pronounced, upon common principles of reasoning, impossible. She finds in every man a

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natural and inveterate enemy. To encounter and to overcome the unanimous hostility of the world, she boasts no political stratagem, no disciplined legions, no outward coercion. Yet, her expectation is, that she shall live forever. To mock this hope, and blot out her memorial from under heaven, the most furious efforts of fanaticism, the most ingenious arts of statesmen, the *concentrated* strength of empires, have been frequently and perseveringly applied. The blood of her sons and of her daughters, has streamed like waters. The smoke of the scaffold and of the stake, where they *won* the crown of *martyrdom*, in the cause of Jesus, has ascended in thick volumes to the skies. The tribes of persecution have sported over her woes; and erected monuments, as they supposed of her perpetual ruin. But where are her tyrants, and where their empires. The tyrants have long since gone to their own place; their names have descended on the roll of infamy; their empires have passed like shadows over the rock; they have successively disappeared and left not a trace behind.

"But what became of the Church? She rose from her ashes, fresh in beauty and in might. Celestial glory beamed around her; she dashed down the monumental marble of her foes, and they, who hated her, fled before her. She has celebrated the funeral of kings and kingdoms that plotted her destruction; and with the inscriptions of their pride, has transmitted to posterity the record of their shame. How shall this phenomenon be explained? We are, at the present moment, witnesses of the fact. This blessed book, the book of *truth* and *life*, hath made our wonder cease. The Lord her God, in the midst of her, is mighty. His presence is a fountain of health; and his protection, a wall of fire. He has betrothed her, in *eternal* covenant, to himself. Her living head, in whom she lives, is above; and his quickening Spirit shall never depart from her. Armed with divine virtue, his Gospel, secret, silent, unobserved, enters the hearts of men, and sets up an everlasting kingdom. It eludes all the vigilance and baffles all the power of the adversary. Bars and bolts and dungeons are no obstacles to its approach; bands and tortures and death, cannot extinguish its influence.

"Let no man's heart tremble then because of fear. Let no man despair in days of rebuke and blasphemy of the *Christian* cause. The ark is launched indeed upon the floods; the tempest sweeps along the deep; the billows break over her on every side. But JEHOVAH Jesus hath promised to conduct her in safety to the haven of peace. She cannot be lost unless the *pilot* perish. Why then do the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things! Hear, O Zion, the word of thy God, and rejoice for the consolation. No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment, thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord; and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord."

For the Christian Secretary.

SENTENTIOUS.

21. When I see a professor of religion regardless of his obligations and promises, however small, I fear he will not only destroy his *christian* character, but wound the cause of Christ!

22. When I see what is called a fashionable professor of religion, indulging in all the ceremonies of the ungodly, I fear he thinks but little of the command "come out from the world. Be not conformed to this world," &c.!

23. When I hear a man speaking against subscription papers for benevolent objects, and publishing the names of donors, and members of Missionary Societies as having a tendency of exciting pride, after all his apparent humility, I am disposed to believe that he fears it will be seen in this way for years to come how much less he bestows in charity than his neighbor!

24. When I see a professor of religion go to reclaim an offending brother, and not possessing the most tender affection, and ardent desires for the good of his brother, I say he do't go alone for he takes the adversary with him!

25. When I hear a professor of religion talking

to the world of the faults of his brethren, I fear he is on the side of the evil one!

26. When I see professors of religion attending to the outward duties, but never ardent in the cause of Christ, never really awake like the young man in the Gospel, it is very difficult to tell what to make of them!

27. When I see a professor of religion who can spend one day after another with an unrenewed sinner, bound to eternal wrath, and never once faithfully warn him of his danger, I think he gives as much evidence as Simon Magus did of being in the "gall of bitterness and bonds of iniquity"!

28. When I hear of a careless impenitent sinner complaining that he cannot change his own heart, and has no power to do anything, it puts me in remembrance of a man who making the most pitiful complaints, said that his fields did not produce any thing that year, which I afterwards learnt he had been too slothful to plant!

29. When I perceive an impenitent sinner speaking and conducting as if he can do without Christ, I tell him that Christ also can do as well without him.

EXPERIENTIA.

To be continued.

THE CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

HARTFORD, MAY 24, 1823.

A barn belonging to Mr. Matthew Clark, of Farmington, was entirely consumed by lightning on Thursday morning last.

A lad about five years old, named Simonds, belonging to Suffield, was drowned on Tuesday last, by falling into the Connecticut river at that place.

The late Abel Gregory, Esq. of Fairfield county, directed in his last will, that ten shares in the United States Bank should be sold, and the avails paid over to the Treasurer of the Baptist General Convention, to be appropriated for foreign missions.

MARRIED,

At East Hartford, Mr. Frederick Woodbridge, to Miss Clarissa C. Pitkin, daughter of Joseph Pitkin, Esq. At New London, Mr. Zebediah Baker, to Miss Mary Kimball.

DIED,

In this city on the 17th inst. Mr. Spencer Whiting, 56. Capt. George Benton, 45.

In this town, on the 12th inst. Miss Maria Ensign, aged 31, daughter of Mr. Solomon Ensign.

At Barkhamsted on the 3d inst. Mrs. Elizabeth Merrells, aged 61, wife of John Merrells, Esq.

At Southington, on the 5th inst. Mrs. Mary Woodruff, aged 67, wife of Mr. Jason Woodruff.

At Grenville, Mass. Mr. Alexander Gowdy.

In Groton, Mrs. Eunice Smith, aged 80, relict of the late Deacon Simeon Smith.

In New London, Mrs. Elizabeth Bulkley, aged 64; Mr. Joseph Youngs, aged 60.

In Cadiz, P. Mumford Hall, American consul at that city, formerly of Pomfret, in this state—a man who reflected honour on the American name.

In Bozrah, Mrs. Mary Bell, 76.

In Lebanon, Mr. Elijah Phelps, 77.

NOTICE.

A public examination of the students of the Baptist Literary and Theological Seminary, Hamilton, N. Y. will commence at the Seminary, on Saturday, May 31st, at 9 o'clock A. M. at which time, the *Junior Class*, with those in preparatory studies, will be examined in English Grammar, in Arithmetic, and in the Latin and Greek languages.

The following Monday, (June 2d,) the examination of the *Middle Class* will commence at 9 o'clock, A. M. in the Greek language, in Geography, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy, Logic and Rhetoric. In the afternoon of the same day, the *Senior Class* will be examined in the Philosophy of the Mind, and Christian Theology. At half past five, in the evening, public speaking will commence at the Meeting House.

On Tuesday, there will be a public exhibition of the *Middle Class*, in the forenoon, beginning at 9 o'clock, and in the afternoon, of the *Senior Class*, commencing at 2 o'clock.

On Wednesday, the *annual meeting* of the Education Society will be held at the New Seminary, at which time, the building will be opened and dedicated. The sermon on the occasion, to commence at 10 o'clock, A. M.

NATHANIEL KENDRICK, Secretary.

Hamilton, May 10th, 1823.

THE RETURNING PENITENT.

Once there was a precious season,
When my Saviour smil'd on me;
Every groan his grace did sweeten,
Every bond his love set free:
Patient, I could bear affliction,
Never murmur at the pain;
Just conception, resignation,
Cheerfully did me sustain.

Joyfully I heard his preaching,
Read his word with great delight,
While his Spirit, gently teaching
Was my comfort day and night:
Sweet was christian conversation,
Christ and grace was all my theme:
Oh! those days of consolation
How delighted I have been!

Had I guarded every passion,
Watching daily unto prayer,
Of each sin made just confession,
I had never felt this snare:
Now my Saviour's smiles are wanting,
Now my groans perpetual rise;
Every hope of joy is falling,
Now I vent my fruitless cries.

Just conception, resignation,
From my breast are far remov'd;
Now I murmur at affliction,
Doubting whether e'er I lov'd.
Oft I hear the gospel sounded,
Oft I read my Saviour's name;
Yet my heart most deeply wounded,
Still remains unmov'd, the same.

If I ever knew the Saviour,
If my soul was born again,
Deep backsliding—base behaviour,
How deluded I have been;
Thus to crucify my Saviour,
Wound his hands—his heart, with pain,
And by my unkind behaviour,
Put him to an open shame.

Now I've fearful apprehension,
Whether Christ I ever knew;
Though I made a great profession,
Yet 'twas rather false than true.
Oh! that Jesus were my Saviour!
This is all my soul's desire!
A portion, Lord, within thy favour
Though I enter there through fire!

LELAND.

PSALM CIV.

By James Montgomery.

My soul, adore the Lord of might;
With uncreated glory crowned,
And clad in royalty of light,
He draws the curtain'd heavens around;

Dark waters his pavilion form,
Clouds are his car, his wheels the storm.

Lightning before him and behind

Thunder rebounding to and fro;

He walks upon the winged wind,

And reins the blast, or lets it go;

This goodly globe his wisdom planned,

He fixed the bounds of sea and land.

When o'er a guilty world of old,

He summon'd the avenging main,

At his rebuke the billows rolled

Back to their parent gulf again;

The mountains raised their joyful heads,

Like new creations from their beds.

Thenceforth the self-revolving tide

Its daily fall and flow maintains;

Through winding vales fresh fountains glide,

Leap from the hills, or course the plains;

There thirsty cattle throng the brink,

And the wild asses bend to drink.

Fed by the currents, fruitful groves

Expand their leaves, their fragrance fling,

Where the cool breeze at noon-tide roves,

And birds among the branches sing;

Soft fall the showers when day declines,

And sweet the peaceful rainbow shines.

Grass through the meadows, rich with flowers,

God's bounty spreads for herds and flocks;

On Lebanon his cedar towers,

The wild goats bound upon his rocks;

Fowls in his forests build their nests,

The stork amid the pine-tree rests.

To strengthen man, condemn'd to toil,

He fills with grain the golden ear;

Bids the ripe olive melt with oil,

And swells the grape, man's heart to cheer;

The moon her tide of changing knows,

Her orb with lustre ebbs and flows.

The sun goes down, the stars come out;

He maketh darkness, and 'tis night;

Then roam the beasts of prey about.

The desert rings with chase and flight;

THE CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

The lion, and the lion's brood,
Look up,—and God provides them food.
Morn dawns far east; ere long the sun
Warms the glad nations with his beams;
Day, in their dens, the spoilers shun,
And night returns to them in dreams;
Man from his couch to labour goes,
Till evening brings again repose.
How manifold thy works, O Lord,
In wisdom, power, and goodness wrought!
The earth is with thy riches stored,
And ocean with thy wonders fraught;
Unfathomed caves beneath the deep,
For Thee their hidden treasures keep.
There go the ships, with sails unfurled,
By Thee directed on their way;
There in his own mysterious world,
Leviathan delights to play;
And tribes that range immensity,
Unknown to man, are known to Thee.
By Thee alone the living live;
Hide but thy face, their comforts fly;
They gather what thy seasons give;
Take thou away their breath, they die;
Send forth thy Spirit from above,
And all is life again, and love.
Joy in his works Jehovah takes,
Yet to destruction they return;
He looks upon the earth, it quakes,
Touches the mountains, and they burn;
Thou, God, for ever art the same;
I AM is thine unchanging name.

SUMMARY.

WAR IN EUROPE.

France has declared war against Spain—and the troops of France have entered the Spanish territory.

Mr. Canning has declared, in the House of Commons, that his government has used their greatest exertions to conciliate the French and Spanish governments, but without effect. That England would remain neutral, unless France invades Portugal; in which case, (Portugal having acted on the defensive only) the British government pledge themselves to aid the Portuguese to the utmost of their power.—Mr. Canning also states, that Com. Owen and his squadron had been despatched to the West Indies for the express purpose of suppressing the Pirates.

The state of things on the continent, has produced a great sensation in England. The ministry have submitted to parliament the whole budget of negotiations between Great Britain and France on the difficulties between the latter nation and Spain.

In answer to all negotiations on the subject, Spain gives one uniform answer, viz. that it is inconsistent with the honour of the Spanish government to permit the intervention of foreigners in her internal concerns, and that she can listen to no proposals for reconsidering her institutions while France menaces her with hostilities.

Mr. Canning declares, that the British government cannot allow of any attempt on the part of France to appropriate to herself any of the Spanish American islands or provinces.

On the 16th of April, Col. Davies inquired of Mr. Canning, what course the British government intended to pursue with regard to the Spanish colonies, such as Cuba, which had not thrown off their allegiance to the mother country, if the French should make an attempt upon them? Mr. Canning replied, that in all the emergencies that might arise out of the war, he felt it to be impossible to give such an answer as the gentleman seemed to expect.

The following summary is from the French papers.

The Constitutional troops had quitted Irun.

The Royalists are masters of the environs of Madrid.

The Ambassador of Portugal has quitted Paris.

The 4th corps of the French army, under Marshal Moncey, is to assemble on the 15th of April, to consist of 18000 men.

Eight hundred men of the army of the Faith headed by the Trappiste, passed the Bidassoa on the 5th of April, and took a position near Irun. The Spanish troops fell back upon St. Sebastian after firing a few shot. Some Constitutionalists endeavoured to alienate the soldiers by cries of Vive Napoleon, &c. Gen. Vallin, commanding the French troops, cried Vive le Roi, and ordered his men to fire—several of them are said to be Lamotte, Marrot, and others, French traitors.

Reports were current that the loss of the French in their first attack upon St. Sebastian, was much greater than they were willing to acknowledge.

It is stated, in the Gazette de France, that when the Duke d'Angouleme arrived at Erani, deputies from the three Biscayan provinces presented to him their recognition of a Provisional government in Spain during the captivity of the King.

The Duke d'Angouleme is said to have made a narrow escape from death before St. Sebastian.

The Prince of Hohenlohe has entered Spain by the Points of Roncesvelles and Baygorri.

The French troops had appeared before St. Sebastian and summoned the place to surrender. The officer sent was detained. A second officer was sent and detained. An attack was then commenced.—The Spaniards made a desperate sally, repulsed the assailants and killed 110 of them.

Paris dates to the 18th of April, state that St. Sebastian and Pampeluna continue to be invested; but their speedy surrender was expected.

The Duke de Angouleme was expected to fix his head quarters at Vittoria, on the 17th of April.

A Madrid article contains the details of the defeat of the Royalists in Valencia, with the loss of 1000 killed and prisoners.

The French government, it is stated, acting on the principle that France is not at war with the Spanish sovereign and nation, but only with a faction, will not grant any letters of marque, nor permit any privateers to be fitted out.

The Madrid Extraordinary Gazette of the 4th of April, contains a Proclamation from J. Abiscall, stating that Col. Don Antonio Bazan, commander of the province of Castellon on his march to Valencia, encountered 5000 rebels, with 1000 men, and in less than ten minutes gained a complete victory—800 killed, 200 taken prisoners, and 1000 muskets.

The French advanced guard had entered Vittoria and Bilboa. It had also passed the famous defiles of Salinas, four leagues in advance of Vittoria without difficulty.

Barcelona is defended by 900 regulars, and 15,000 militia. The ramparts are mounted with cannon, and the fosses round the town filled with water.

Paris, April 22.

The port and citadel of Gutaria have been taken by our troops. Two hundred men, among whom were 2 colonels, and ten other officers have been taken, together with 5 pieces of cannon, and provision.

It is said that the enemy have abandoned Bruges since the 14th. Every where the French army meet with the best reception.

The French frigate la Guerriere has been taken almost in sight of Brest, by two armed vessels bearing Spanish colours, one of which was a brig carrying 15 or 20 guns. The frigate was peppered in high style. You may rely upon the truth of this.

The following is also an extract of another private letter, dated Paris, April 18:—

"All the letters from Bordeaux and Havre, express the greatest alarm with respect to the vessels which they expect from day to day. A letter from Bayonne, of the 12th inst. announces the capture by a Spanish corsair of a ship laden with grain which was carried into St. Sebastian. A Spanish ship of war is placed below the river."

From Bayonne, April 17.

The Major General to his Excellency the Minister of War.

"There is nothing new from the army. The troops are in full march.

"The army of Perpignan, which awaits the arrival of the Duke d'Angouleme on the Ebro, will be in movement from the 20th to the 22d instant.

"In a few days our 100,000 men will be in a line. Then the decisive blow will be struck.

Pampeluna and St. Sebastian are invested; but they have not been attacked, and all the rumours which have been circulated on this point are absurd and ridiculous.

"Insurrections multiply in the interior of Spain."

April 14.—I have announced to you that Pampeluna had been evacuated by the garrison, composed of 2000 men; 1000 only have left that place to escort to Arragon valuable effects, which had been deposited in that town. The remainder of the garrison is composed of militia, who have neither the power nor the inclination to defend themselves if they were to attempt it, the inhabitants are so enthusiastic in favor of the good cause, that they would open the gates themselves.

From France.—By the ship Elizabeth, Capt. Smith, in 20 days from Havre, we have received Paris papers to the 20th of April, the same dates as those received by the Leeds.

General organization of the army of Spain.

His Royal Highness, the Duke of Angouleme Generalissimo.

Lieut. General Count Guilleminot, Major General of the army.

Commander in chief of the first corps, Marshal Duke of Reggio. Of the second, Count Molitor. Of the third, Prince Hohenlohe. Of the fourth, Marshal Moncey, Count Colegino. Of the corps de reserve, Count Bourdesoule.

The force of the army of the Pyrenees is about 60,000 men; and that of the fourth corps, destined to act against Catalonia, above 21,000.

A petition had been brought before the Chamber of Deputies for a marble statue to the memory of Louis XVI.

GREAT FIRE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

The English papers state none of the houses of the ambassadors suffered at the late fire. The number of houses and shops destroyed is estimated at 8000, with 50 or 60 mosques or chapels. Every thing was laid waste to the distance of a league and a half. Forty thousand persons were without a habitation, and great numbers were consumed, being unable to get out of the reach of the fire by sickness, &c. The fire is said to have made a deep impression on the minds of the Turks, who with astonishment beheld the conflagration confine itself to Turkish

dwellings, and sparing, as if directed by supernatural agency, the dwellings of the Christians.—*N. Y. D. Adv.*

Naval Engagement.—The ship Douglass, Capt. Brown, arrived at New York on the 21st inst. brought the Court of the 3d inst. containing the following unpleasant intelligence. The engagement took place on the 30th of April. Capt. Brown states that the smaller vessels of the Colombian fleet made their escape, and had arrived at Curacao.

[The sum of this intelligence is, that the Spanish naval forces consisting of six sail, armed with 186 guns, and 1806 men, met and conquered the Columbian squadron, taking four sail, 82 guns, and 478 men.]

On the 21st of March, the mountain of Vesuvius, and the neighbouring mountains, were covered with snow. The cold had been extraordinary. In the city of Aquila, there fell so much snow in 36 hours, that the roofs of five churches were broken in.

Knoxville, Tenn. May 2. About two weeks ago, a rencontre took place on the Indian side of the Tennessee river, in Marion county.—Two parties met, one commanded by John H. Jeffrey, the other by William Wright. On the first fire Jeffrey was shot through the heart, and another of his party wounded. A third was then knocked down with a gun, and had his head miserably beat and bruised.

A man named Francis L. Lloyd, recently arrived in Boston from New York, was murdered in that city a few days ago.

Franklin, Missouri, April 1. The boats Rocky Mountains and Yellow Stone Packet, under the command of Gen. Wm. H. Ashley, from St. Louis for the mouth of the Yellow Stone River, arrived here on Wednesday last, on their way up, and departed the next day. These boats have on board about 100 men, who are to join a party of about the same number, which has been for some time at that place, where forts have been erected, and other dispositions made for the security of the company, and for prosecuting the fur trade upon an extensive scale.

John Denlinger, of Mount Pleasant, between Lancaster and Columbia, cut his throat a few days since while in a state of intoxication. He had given himself up to intemperance, and became embarrassed in consequence. Let tipplers beware.

Trenton, May 19. A lamentable occurrence took place in the township of Tewksbury, in this county, on the 14th inst. the particulars of which, as far as we are informed, and think proper to state, were these: Conrad Zellers, a man holding a farm in that township, had been sold out by the sheriff about a year ago, and Zachariah Flommerfelt, one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas of this county, became the purchaser. Zellers refused to give possession, and proceedings were instituted by the purchaser to eject him from the premises. In consequence of this state of things, enmity arose between them, and an altercation ensued on the above mentioned day, when Zellers shot Flommerfelt through the body with a musket, which put a period to his life in about twenty minutes after the deed was perpetrated. Zellers, we are informed, has been apprehended and committed to Flemington jail with some of his family. He is about 72 years of age!

The Mobile papers mention, that the late severe weather has killed nearly all the orange and fig trees near Pensacola.

NOTICE.

IN pursuance of an order of the court of probate for the district of Hartford, I hereby give notice to all persons interested in the estate of Daniel Skinner, late of Windsor, in the district of Hartford, deceased, to appear before the court of probate to be holden at the probate office in said district on the 26th day of May instant, at two o'clock P. M. to be heard relative to the appointment of commissioners on said estate.

May 16, 1823.

ARVID MERRILL, Executor.

ÆTNA INSURANCE COMPANY

WILL receive proposals for Insurance against loss or damage by fire, every day in the week (except Sunday) at their office in Morgan's Exchange Coffee-house, State Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

DANIEL ST. JOHN, Esq. of said Hartford, is appointed Surveyor. His acts in that capacity will be recognized as the acts of the Company.

THOMAS K. BRACE, President.

ISAAC PERKINS, Secretary.

Hartford, Feb. 16, 1822.

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